



## Flathead National Forest

650 Wolfpack Way  
Kalispell, MT 59901

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# News Release

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## Area Closures Lifted at the Spotted Bear Ranger District

SPOTTED BEAR, MONTANA – Effective immediately, the area closures encompassing the Spotted Bear River Road and the Meadow Creek Road as a result of the Trail Creek and Bear Creek Wildfires has been lifted. With the recent low temperatures, added precipitation, fire behavior has been very low. Hazard trees have been felled along roads in the burn area. Due to these recent developments, fire officials have determined that, other than a few select trails, the area is safe to reopen.

In Addition, the Youngs Creek Area and the trails near the Lena Lake Fire are also open.

### **Due to extensive trail work that remains to be done in the Bear Creek and the Trail Creek burn areas. The following trails will REMAIN CLOSED:**

- Main South Fork Trail #80 from the Meadow Creek Trailhead to Black Bear Cabin
- Trail Creek Trail #731
- Green Mountain Lookout Trail #75
- Schafer Creek Trail #327 from Trail Creek Trailhead to where the trail crosses the West Fork of Shafer Creek
- Spy Mountain Trail #238 from its junction with #731 to its junction with #75

Firewood cutting and camping along the Meadow Creek Road (and open lateral roads) are prohibited at this time, due to public safety. Camping and firewood cutting will be allowed at the developed recreation sites of the Gorge Creek Trailhead and Meadow Creek Trailhead. This wood must be dead and down, less than 12 inches in diameter and used within the campground. Also, firewood cutting along the Spotted Bear River Road (and open lateral roads) area prohibited at this time, due to public safety.

All users are asked to be very heads up on the changed conditions and aware of potential hazards. For example there are many burned trees that may become hazard trees and, numerous stumps holes burned that may look solid.

For additional information, contact the Spotted Bear Ranger District at 406-785-5376.